

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 EB-08 L-03 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 IO-13 /067 W
-----002416 022214Z /70

P R 022054Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9817
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 3721

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR EC PE EFIN
SUBJ: ECUADOREAN ACCESS TO AMAZON

REF: STATE 83864

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE IN INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION FROM FOREIGN
MINISTER DE LA PUENTE TO SECRETARY VANCE DATED APRIL 19, 1978,
WAS RECEIVED BY EMBASSY APRIL 28. IT RESPONDS TO SECRETARY'S
LETTER OF MARCH 27 (REFTEL). ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED ARA/AND/P,
COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

2. QUOTE: DEAR MR. MINISTER:

I REFER TO YOUR KIND LETTER OF MARCH 27 DELIVERED TO ME BY
AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMAN, WHO, I PRESUME, HAS ALREADY PROVIDED
YOU SOME COMMENT.

IN THIS REGARD, I MUST CONFESS THAT I WAS SURPRISED
TO NOTE THAT, DESPITE THE PRESENTATION BY AMBASSADOR GARCIA
BEDOYA AND THE CLARITY WITH WHICH I AM SURE HE REITERATED
THE POSITION OF MY GOVERNMENT, THE COMMUNICATION TO WHICH
I AM RESPONDING MAKES NO MENTION WHATSOEVER OF THE PROTOCOL
OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND BORDERS SIGNED IN RIO DE JANEIRO
ON JANUARY 29, 1940 BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF PERU AND
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ECUADOR, TOGETHER WITH THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE UNITED STATES, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND CHILE, COUNTRIES
WHICH BY SO DOING BECAME GUARANTOR STATES FOR THE EXACT
COMPLIANCE WITH AND FAITHFUL EXECUTION OF THAT SOLEMN TREATY.

THE PERUVIAN-ECUADOREAN "BORDER QUESTION" TO WHICH
YOU MAKE REFERENCE CONSISTS, IN REALITY, IN THE FACT THAT

THE PROCESS OF EXECUTION OF SAID INSTRUMENT HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED BY THE REBELLIOUS ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH THE ARBITRAL AWARD OF THE BRAZILIAN TECHNICIAN BRAZ DIAS DE AGUIAR AND, LATER, UNILATERALLY DECLARED THE PROTOCOL OF RIO DE JANEIRO TO BE NULL AND VOID, AN ATTITUDE WHICH, BY VIRTUE OF ITS ILLEGITIMACY, WAS EXPRESSLY REJECTED BY THE FOUR GUARANTOR STATES IN IDENTICAL NOTES DATED DECEMBER 7, 1960.

AS A RESULT, AND IN ORDER NOT TO VIOLATE JURIDICAL INSTRUMENTS IN FORCE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, PERUVIAN-ECUADOREAN CONVERSATIONS CAN ONLY BE CONCERNED WITH THE BEST WAY TO CULMINATE THE BILATERAL EXECUTION OF THE TREATY, BOTH IN ITS DEMARCATION ASPECTS AS WELL AS IN THE AREAS CONCERNED WITH THE ASSURANCE OF PEACE AND THE INCREASE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

OBTAINING, THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS DIALOGUE WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN ECUADOR CHANGES ITS POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE UNQUESTIONABLE VALIDITY OF THE PROTOCOL OF RIO DE JANEIRO AND MANIFESTS ITS INTENTION TO HONOR THE INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS CONTRACTED BY VIRTUE OF SAID TREATY AND ALL THE ACTS AND AGREEMENTS DERIVED THEREFROM BY THE CONTRACTING PARTIES AND BY THE GUARANTOR STATES.

NEVERTHELESS, PERU CONTINUES TO BE FAVORABLY DISPOSED
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TOWARD A STIMULATION OF THE PROCESS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND BORDER INTEGRATION BEGUN WITH ECUADOR A DECADE AGO. PERU SINCERELY HOPES FOR A RECIPROCAL ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT, IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE POSITIVE EXPERIENCES RESULTING FROM COOPERATION IN THE WESTERN SECTOR OF OUR COMMON BORDER, EXPANDING ON THEM IN A SUITABLE WAY TO ENCOMPASS THE DIFFERENT AND COMPLEX SITUATION OF THE ADJACENT AMAZON TERRITORIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

I FEEL THAT, WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, THE ASSISTANCE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN SECURING MULTILATERAL FINANCIAL AID WOULD BE OF SIGNIFICANT HELP IN ENCOURAGING A CONSTRUCTIVE GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY PRIMARILY ORIENTED TOWARD FACILITATING THE MOST PRACTICAL AND EFFECTIVE FLUVIAL ACCESS TO THE AMAZON RIVER FOR ECUADOR, AS ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE SIX OF THE PROTOCOL OF RIO DE JANEIRO.

I AM CERTAIN THAT BOTH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ABOUT THE IMPERATIVE NEED TO SAFEGUARD THE PRINCIPLE OF FAITHFUL OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AS THE FUNDAMENTAL BASIS OF THE JURIDICAL ORDER AMONG NATIONS AND A GUARANTEE OF THE STABILITY OF THEIR

RELATIONSHIP. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM YOU OF MY DESIRE
TO USE MY UPCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON FOR APPROPRIATE
DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU ON THESE QUESTIONS AS THEY TOUCH ON
THE SOVEREIGNTY OF PERU AND CONCERN THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA BY VIRTUE OF ITS POSITION AS GUARANTOR OF THE 1942
PROTOCOL OF RIO DE JANEIRO, THE NECESSARY FRAMEWORK
WITHIN WHICH PERUVIAN-ECUADOREAN RELATIONS MUST EVOLVE.
CORDIALLY, JOSE DE LA PUENTE RADBILL. UNQUOTE.
SHLAUDEMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, AMAZON, WATER BOUNDARIES, RIVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIMA03721
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780187-0635
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805103/aaaadjqd.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d33cd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 83864
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2520685
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECUADOREAN ACCESS TO AMAZON
TAGS: PBOR, EFIN, EC, PE, US, (DE LA PUENTE RADBILL, JOSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d33cd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014